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Application No.: 08/325,549

winding the length of flexible member around, wherein the second end of the flexible member passes through the second access hole and wherein the first end of flexible member passes through the first access hole of the container;

a foot plate secured to an exterior of the base of the container, the foot plate having a generally horizontal surface extending below the base of the container beyond the side wall so that force may be applied to the horizontal surface for stabilizing the device as the spool is rotated and when the spool is being removed from the container, the footplate further including mounting holes which extend through the foot plate for mounting the device; and

means for rotating the spool within the container.

The device of claim 1 wherein the mounting holes are spaced (Amended) equidistantly about a perimeter of the [container] foot plate.

(Amended) A device for storing an elongate flexible member having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:

a container having a base, a cylindrical sidewall, and a first access hole defined through the side wall;

> a spool disposed within the container [free from attachment to the container], the spool comprising:

a bottom freely resting within the container, a top having a second access hole extending therethrough, and a column vertically mounted between the top and bottom independent of the base, the column having a surface for winding the length of flexible member around, wherein the second end of the flexible member passes through the

